

TEXAS FARM NEWS

Transplanting of the onion crop in the Rio Grande Valley was handicapped in January by wet weather.

A large modern cattle and hog farm will be opened up near Paris. It will be used as a demonstration farm.

The Kennedy ranch has been sold near Alpine to Nichols & Sons for approximately \$250,000. The deal involved 80,000 acres.

A ranchman near Big Spring wintered over 1,000 sheep on his wheat and reports the sheep fat and wheat in excellent condition.

Farmers of Bell County will increase their corn acreage over previous years. Continued wet weather in the fall prevented early plantings.

Texarkana had a sweet potato fair February 13 and there were a number of very fine exhibits, mostly Nancy Halls and Porto Rico yams.

DeWitt County farmers began planting corn the second week in February. In general, south and southwest Texas is from three to six weeks behind with farm work.

The Ridder ranch, located twelve miles north of San Diego in Duval County, consisting of 30,000 acres of grazing land, sold recently for \$195,000, or \$6.50 per acre.

There will be an increase in the tomato acreage over last year in and around Jacksonville. Transplanting of the tomato plants to cold frames is about finished.

The pink boll worm has made its appearance in Louisiana. Quarantine has been declared in Cameron Parish, as a result of finding pink boll worm in the vicinity of Johnson Bayou.

Williamson County reports having ginned, this season, 77,959 bales of cotton. This is probably the largest amount of cotton grown in any county in Texas during the season of 1919.

Citizens of Coryell County have subscribed for a car of high-grade registered Holstein cattle. Fifty-eight head have already been shipped in. The ticks have practically been cleaned from the county.

Many of the farmers of Parker County will plant the best and newest varieties of cotton seed. Their experiments last year proved that it paid to cull their seed and only plant seed that passed the test.

Practically all of the national hog associations are co-operating with the Fort Worth Fat Stock Show management this year and Secretary-Manager Sansom is confident of the greatest fat hog show in history.

The Co-operating Marketing Association of Smith County has just shipped its 112th car of hogs to the Fort Worth market. Farmers of that county find it profitable to market their hogs through the association.

Dr. A. W. Sheeley, animal husbandry expert for the Philippine Government, has bought 120 high-grade Texas cattle, which he will ship at an early date to the Philippine Islands for Government demonstration work.

The Collin County Sheep and Wool Growers' Association received a check for approximately \$20,000 in payment for the wool that was pooled by the Collin County wool growers. The wool brought an average of 54 cents per pound.

Premiums in the boys' and girls' baby beef and hog classes at the Fat Stock Show, Fort Worth, March 6-13, have been materially increased and boys' and girls' classes on sheep have been created, with generous prize money.

A survey of the amount of grain waiting for shipment in Swisher County shows 300 cars of wheat, 400 cars of oats, barley and rye, 500 cars of kaffir and maize corn and 10 cars of seed cane. The West Texas grain crop has suffered much for lack of transportation facilities.

The Secretary of Bonham Board of Trade announces that he will again order sweet potato slips at cost for farmers who want them. Last year 150,000 slips were ordered for the farmers of Fannin County by the Bonham Board of Trade.

Thomas C. Hall, a farmer near Ballinger, sold 61 bales of cotton for 44 cents. The cotton was of the long staple variety and measured 1 1/8 inches. This probably refutes the statement that long staple cotton cannot be grown in West Texas.

South Texas farmers have been delayed in getting into their fields because of wet ground, and as a consequence, are just now planting

their cotton crop. An increased acreage is reported. Several counties are increasing their peanut and corn acreage.

Big lake, which is 73 miles west of San Angelo, is getting on the map these days, there recently having been organized at that place, a Mohair Association with a capital stock of \$50,000. A warehouse to cost \$12,000 will be built to store the spring clips.

C. M. Largent of Merkel, well-known breeder of Herefords, has entered fourteen of his fine white-faced cattle in the classes of the Fat Stock Show to be held at Fort Worth March 6 to 13. Walter and Carl Matthews of Coleman have sent an entry of baby beef.

C. N. Hobson, has realized \$32,000 from cotton grown on the farm of A. W. Blain near Vernon. One-fourth, or \$8,000 of the \$32,000 goes to Mr. Blain, the landlord. Hobson raised about 200 bales and is a tenant farmer. He expects to own his own farm next year.

The price of eggs dropping to 30 cents per dozen at Smithville sounds like old times coming back again. The recent spring-like weather caused old "biddie" to get busy and it is probable that, the markets will soon be flooded with fresh-laid, spring eggs.

A corporation, with a capital stock of \$20,000, has been organized in Tyler to build packing sheds to standardize the pack and grades in Smith County. Standard-pack and grading enables the grower to realize a 50 per cent better price for his products.

While other West Texas Counties are shipping in hogs, Howard County has many pigs for sale, which is due mainly to the work of the Pig Club boys, who were financed last year by the West Texas National Bank of Big Springs.

The House Agricultural Committee reported a bill appropriating \$100,000 for seed to be furnished farmers in the Corpus Christi district, in order to help the farmers who lost heavily during the recent storm on the Gulf coast. A maximum of \$300 will be allowed to each farmer.

Edwin Skinner, a newspaper man of Ballinger, has installed machinery for shelling pecans and will deal extensively in the buying and selling of pecans. He has severed his connection with the newspaper interest and will be actively connected with the Colorado Valley Pecan Company.

The first shipment of strawberries for this season arrived on the local market at Galveston, February 15. The berries were grown in the vicinity of Dickinson, Galveston County, and retailed at \$18.00 a crate wholesale. Some of these berries were on the Fort Worth market the 17th of February.

Five elks from Yellowstone National Park have been received at Sonora, in Sutton County, as an experiment to determine whether or not elks will propagate in Texas. The experiment is being conducted by the state at its livestock experiment station No. 14, located 20 miles below Sonora.

A Travis County hen earned for its owner, Mrs. Susan Waxler, \$18.50 during 1919. This chicken is a cross between a Rhode Island Red and a White Leghorn. Her record for the year was 103 eggs laid, 73 chickens hatched and 62 chickens raised. The hen attended strictly to business and set six times during the year.

A premium list of the Fat Stock Show, to be held in Fort Worth March 6-13, provides for a total purse of \$1,400 on beef cattle in carlots; \$550 for grass cattle; and \$1,000 for feeder cattle. Many other additional purses are offered for pure breed cattle. For mules a purse of \$360 has been provided.

POULTRY

Eggs for hatching should be kept in a cool place at a temperature of from 50 to 60 degrees. They should not be kept for long, however, as the fresher an egg is the better it will hatch. A week to ten days should be the limit to be perfectly safe. Fertility weakens as the eggs become older. If eggs are to be kept more than a few days before incubation it is well to turn them once or twice a day to keep the yolk from settling and sticking to the shell. Eggs for hatching should not be subjected to rough handling. The constant vibration that results from improper packing of eggs for shipment tends to weaken the germ to a degree that will prevent hatching.

The character of the egg itself is an important factor in the proper selection of hatching eggs. Some eggs are too round and some too long to be used for hatching. Only eggs that are normal in shape and size should be classed as acceptable. Reject all irregular shapes, abnormally large or small sizes, rough shells, ringed, ridged or shells that are too porous.



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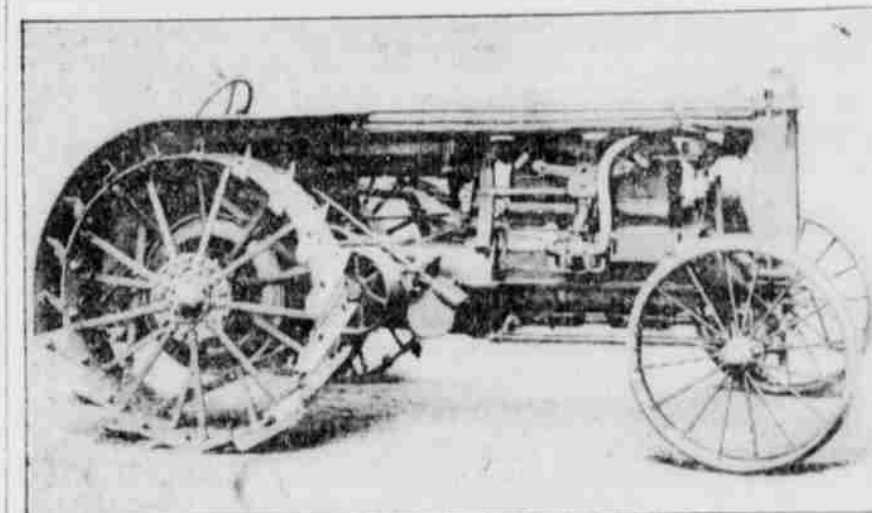
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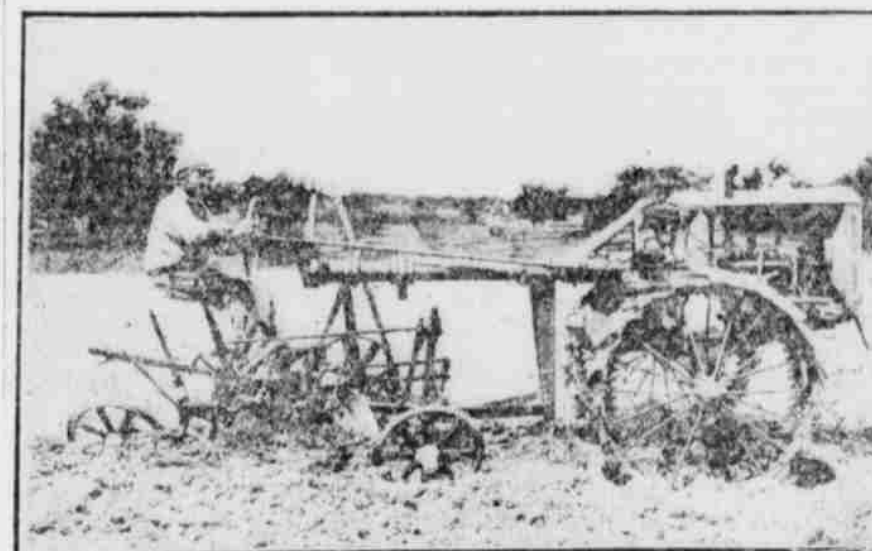
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